report which appeared in the Hindustan Times of May 8, 1990 under the caption "Concern at brutality on child workers", referring to a study conducted by the Centre of Concern for Child Labour and an action-plan to ameliorate the condition of child labour ;

(b) if so, what are the main findings thereof and the details of the action-plan suggested ; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) : (a) to (c) The news item entitled "Concern at brutality on child workers' is reportedly based on a study conducted by a Delhi-based non-Governmental organisation. This study refers to some instances of violence againt domestic child workers. The study has suggested the following actions in the long-term perspective :—

(i) Government should conduct a detailed study through the Ministry of Home Affairs to take stock of the situation of domestic child servants in four metropolitan cities—Delhi, Madras, Bombay and and Calcutta.

(ii) The primary administrative responsibility for dealing with the problems should lie with the Department of Social Welfare and municipalities.

(iii) The Government should take steps to create a legal framework within which voluntary organiations can collect and disseminate infromation regarding domestic child servants.

(iv) The Government should create an umbrella agency at the Centre level which will function as a focal point for all matters relating to domestic children. This agency should provide them with a right to redressal against police, employers and others in authority. This agency could also act as an independant monitoring body for safeguarding children's rights.

(v) Research on the nature and prevention of domestic child servants ; the long term effect of such work and local causes and consequences of the problem.

(vi) Radio and Television and print media can play an important role in educating the general public about problems and exploitation of domestic child servants.

Delhi Administration have been asked to look into the specific cases referred to in the report. The suggestions are also being shared with others concerned for section as appropriate.

Exploitation of Labourers who migrated from Andhra Pradesh

*350. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the write-up on the miseries of A.P. migrant labour in Maharashtra, as reported in the Indian Express, dated the 6th May, 1990; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any plan to end exploitation and to provide various amenities and insurance cover for such labour?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN) ; (a) and (b) The

facts contained in the news item have been brought to the notice of the State Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. The Inter-State Migrant Workmen (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1979 provides for meeting of certain basic needs such as housing, drinking water, latrines, urinals, washing facilities, protective clothing, creches and canteens, etc. by the employer, besides ensuring payment of minimum wages, travelling allowance, etc. Apart from urging better implementation of existing labour laws, the Government is seriously considering certain proposals to provide statutory guarantee of work of some kind of all citizens.

Inclusion of Kutch district under Desert Development Programme

*351. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently received any proposal from the Government of Gujarat to include Kutch district in the Desert Development Programme; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI UPENDRA NATH VERMA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Gujarat Government has submitted a memorandum to the National Committee on Drought Prone Areas Programme and Desert Development Programme wherein it has been proposed that Kutch district should be included in the Desert Development Programme.

(b) The National Committee set up to look into various aspects of the two programmes will also consider memoranda received from Gujarat Government alongwith similar memoranda received from other State Governments, hold discussions with State Governments if necessary and thereafter finalise its recommendations.

The Government will take a decision on various aspects of the programme including its coverage after the report of the National Committee is received.

Target fixed for completion of Koraput--Rayagada railway line

*352. SHRI JAGADISH JANI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the target date set for the completion of the construction of Koraput-Rayagada Railway line in Orissa;

(b) whether the construction of that line has been completed; and

(c) if not, what progress has been made so far in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI AJAY SINGH) : (a) and (b) Koraput—Machiliguda (20 Km) has been opened. Machiliguda—Rayagada (144 Km) is expected to be opened by 31-3-1991.

(c) Upto April, 1990, the physical progress is 61% and financial progress is Rs. 232.40 crores.

Losses due to cyclone in Andhra Pradesh

*353. SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent cyclone has caused severe damage to the people and properties in Andhra Pradesh;